

# METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR MONITORING AND COMMUNICATING WITH AN IMPLANTED MEDICAL DEVICE

## Abstract of the Disclosure

5 A method and apparatus for communicating with and monitoring the operation  
of a device implanted within a patient. A transceiver capable of being implanted within  
a patient provides a communication interface between an implanted medical device and  
a monitor external to the patient's body. The external monitor can communicate with a  
remote monitoring center over a communication network. The external monitor also  
provides control signals to the implanted device via the transceiver unit. The  
10 transceiver apparatus is capable of two-way communication between the implanted  
device and the external monitor. The transceiver apparatus is also capable of detecting  
actions performed by the implanted device and physiological signals directly from the  
patient's body. Thus, the transceiver apparatus provides a means for determining  
whether an implanted medical device is operating properly. The transceiver apparatus  
15 provides a way to remotely reprogram one or more implanted medical devices.

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